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Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : What is the grant given to each house as it differs from place to place?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : The amount given in the case of each accident is Rs. 30 to rebuild or repair houses.

Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Do the Government think that it is enough to rebuild the house or a portion of the house?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : It is only as a first help. But if people affected by fire or floods apply for Government loan, they get about a thousand rupees per house.

Loans for House Construction

* 36. *Q.*—Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Gazetted Officers, who have been granted loans for construction of houses in the City of Madras during the last five years, (i) by the Government; (ii) by the Co-operative House Construction Societies; and (iii) by the State Housing Board;

(*b*) the number of Gazetted Officers who have built more than one house; and

(*c*) the member of Gazetted Officers who have not occupied the houses built by them?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) The number of Gazetted Officers who were granted loans for construction of houses in the City of Madras is—

(i) by the Government—83;

(ii) by Co-operative House Construction Societies—25; and

(iii) by the State Housing Board (built houses)—121.

(*b*) The number of Gazetted Officers, who have built more than one house with the loan assistance of the Government, the Co-operative House Construction Societies and the State Housing Board, is ' NIL '.

(*c*) The number of Gazetted Officers, who have not occupied the houses built by them is—

(i) with the loans obtained from Government directly—No information is available;

(ii) with the loan assistance from Co-operative House Construction Societies—20; and

(iii) with the loan assistannce of the State Housing Board—All houses have been occupied by the allottees themselves, except in the case of 13 Gazetted Officers, who were granted permission to let out the houses allotted to them consequent on their transfers elsewhere after allotment.

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SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Are these houses allotted by the Rent Controller or do owners of the houses have freedom to give them to whomsoever they like?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The usual law will apply to that, that is, the first letting will be by themselves; thereafter it wil be by the Accommodation Controller.

State Housing Board

* 37 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a retired I.A.S. Officer has been re-employed as Chairman of the Madras State Housing Board; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes Sir.

(*b*) The officer was re-employed in view of his past experience in the fields of Local Administration and Housing and with a view to complete expeditiously the items of work already taken up.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Is there no other officer now serving the Government to serve in that post?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : In our opinion, the officer is very competent and his services were required.

Drugs

* 38 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the procedure adopted for the procurement of drugs for the Government hospitals and dispensaries?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : The requirements of drugs, except antibiotics, sera and vaccines and quinine for the Government hospitals and dispensaries are obtained on indent from the Medical Stores Depot, Madras. Antibiotics, sera and vaccines and quinine are obtained from Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Pimpri, the King Institute, Guindy, and the Central Jail, Coimbatore, respectively. Such of the drugs as could not be supplied immediately by the Medical Stores Depot, etc., are locally purchased under proper sanction after calling for competitive quotations in the open market.

Medical Officers

* 39 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any medical officers in Government service have taken a second spouse while the first spouse is alive; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against them?